



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

SPORTING APPARATUS SUITED FOR FISHING AND HUNTING

The present application is a continuation-in-part of serial number 09/551,212, filed 04/07/00, now patent 6,715,230, which is a continuation-in-part of S.N. 09/436,039, filed 11/08/99, now patent ~~6,347,532~~ ^{6,374,532}, which was in turn a continuation-in-part of S.N. 08/959,801, filed 10/29/97, now patent 6,170,189.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to sporting equipment and more particularly to a sporting apparatus suited for fishing and hunting.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The general objective of the present invention is to provide a supporting apparatus that can serve as an improved fishing reel holder that can be used for any kind of fishing but is particularly well suited for ice fishing, *i.e.*, fishing on a frozen lake through an opening in the ice. While fishing devices have been previously proposed for this purpose, the fisherman often becomes uncomfortable because there is no place to sit and the fishing equipment is of no assistance in this regard. One object of the invention is thus to provide a fishing reel holder that can also be used as a seat for the fisherman.

Prior fishing equipment is not well suited for supporting a conventional fishing rod as well as a separate ice fishing reel. Accordingly, another object of the invention is to provide a fishing reel holder that can be used for simultaneously supporting a fishing reel of the kind used for ice fishing as well as a conventional fishing rod.